



ARMY ACQUISITION REFORM



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Improving Contingency Contracting Training Opportunities at the National Training Center

Forces Command (FORSCOM) requires units rotating through the National Training Center (NTC) to deploy with contingency contracting personnel from their divisional contracting section. In the past, these personnel were limited to executing delivery orders against existing Fort Irwin basic ordering agreements. LTC Mike Henry, Director of Contracting at Fort Irwin, revamped his operations over the past year to afford contingency contracting personnel at the NTC better training by allowing them to solicit and award purchase orders and contracts for goods and services their units require.

At FORSCOM's recent Contingency Contracting Workshop, COL Charles Guta, FORSCOM's PARC, proposed additional training for contingency contracting personnel while their units conduct maneuvers in the NTC. Contingency contracting personnel support their units before and after this maneuver period, with a two-week period available for additional training. The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Procurement (DASA(P)) collected contracting scenarios from the U.S. Air Force's Top Dollar competitions and the U.S. Army Contracting Command Korea's external evaluation and forwarded them to FORSCOM. Using these scenarios, LTC Henry is developing a two-week, scenario-based contracting training program as part of NTC rotations. With the cooperation of the DASA(P), the Air Force, and the Army's Contracting Command Korea, FORSCOM's initiative will result in another superb training opportunity for our young contingency contracting Officers and NCOs during the 2nd Quarter of FY99.

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